

prices, have lead to a loss of infrastructure and revenue for our New York dairy farmers. Our farmers continue to experience a reduction in farm income including the loss of at least \$200 million annually.

Our dairy farmers are relying on their inclusion in the Northeast Dairy Compact, to provide them with stability in pricing. However, that measure is not only missing from this legislation, it was not even permitted to be discussed. Time and time again, our Nation's dairy farmers have had to face the challenges of nature and an unstable market.

In response to these challenges, these distressed dairy farmers looked to the Congress to provide them with a crucial milk price safety net, by extending the Northeast Dairy Compact, and offering the preferred milk pricing structure.

Accordingly, along with my colleagues from New York and throughout the region, I anticipated the opportunity to respond to our farmers by negotiating for the inclusion of favorable dairy language in this legislation. However, this opportunity was not afforded to us.

Finally, I urge the full committee to work toward the inclusion of the Northeast Dairy Compact during negotiations in the conference.

TRIBUTE TO OPERATION BREAKTHROUGH

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 5, 2001

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of Kansas City, Missouri's most successful childcare facilities. Serving more than 400 children daily, Operation Breakthrough is Missouri's largest single site childcare center and broad based social service agency. This year, Operation Breakthrough will celebrate 30 years of helping less fortunate children develop to their fullest potential.

After working together at St. Vincent's Elementary School in 1967, Sister Corita Bussanmas and Sister Berta Sailer were approached by several economically disadvantaged working mothers that wanted affordable and quality childcare. In 1971, at the mothers request the sisters opened a childcare center in their living room, at 31st and Paseo to care for 50 children. Later that year, the Catholic Diocese closed St. Vincent's Parish. Without funds from the Diocese, the parents worked together to obtain Model Cities funding in addition to a grant from the Hall Family Foundation. Thanks to the hard work, long hours and dedication from the sisters, families, volunteers and the community, Operation Breakthrough has gone through many transformations to become the non-religious, 501 © (3) not-for-profit corporation that we know today.

In 1976, the center grew to include before and after school programs allowing parents the ability to enter and remain in the workforce. Five years later, Operation Breakthrough moved to its current location at 31st and Troost continuing its commitment to the

urban core where it has added an extensive assortment of social services to meet the needs of the families and their children.

Over the past 30 years, Operation Breakthrough has assisted numerous children living in poverty by providing them a caring and positive learning environmental. This not-for-profit organization offers the families and children of Kansas City the services of day care, Early Start and Head Start programs, a 7,000-volume library, a children's computer lab, health and dental services through Children's Mercy Hospital and various dental clinics, speech therapy, play therapy, occupational therapy, housing assistance, GED tutoring, parenting classes, mentoring, a clothing closet, and nutritious meals.

As the largest childcare provider in the state of Missouri, Operation Breakthrough has excelled in every aspect of its service to our community. As a direct result from the success Operation Breakthrough has shown, last years appropriation committee recognized their efforts by funding the Second Step anti-violence program and Child Abuse prevention program in the sum of \$180,000.

Today, Operation Breakthrough is a place of laughter and joy for children in need. Five days a week from six a.m. to six p.m., Operation Breakthrough is a place which strives to provide children and their families the security and stability missing in their lives. Since 1971, Operation Breakthrough has provided the very education that will not only assist in developing these children, but also positively impact their ways of thinking and behaviors for the rest of their lives. Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Operation Breakthrough celebrate thirty years of outstanding service to the Kansas City community.

AMERICA'S FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 5, 2001

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I was very pleased a week ago to see an oped in my hometown newspaper, The Oregonian, written by the president of the American Foreign Service Association, John Naland. It highlights the work of the Foreign Service that we now know is even more important in the wake of the September 11 attack on our country.

There is a serious problem facing the Foreign Service, and it can be rectified in the FY02 Commerce-Justice-State appropriations bill, H.R. 2500, when it goes to the House/Senate Conference. Personnel shortages in the Foreign Service Corps seriously impede our ability to conduct our nation's foreign policy. Even before September 11, our Foreign Service personnel were stretched too thinly in the face of growing demands. Work that should have been done was not getting adequate attention because of competing demands of time and energy. Personnel shortages also leave us under-trained because in choosing between training or filling a position, the system fills the position.

The Department of State calculates that the shortfall is about 1,100 people. The 2000 re-

port on 'State Department Reform' by the Task Force chaired by Frank Carlucci and co-sponsored by the Council on Foreign Relations and the Center for Strategic and International Studies estimated the workforce shortfall to be some 700 Foreign Service Officers or nearly 15 percent of Foreign Service requirements.

As the Foreign Service continues to promote and protect our interests abroad in these difficult days, it is vital that we appropriate funding for the Diplomatic and Consular Account in the State Department portion of the FY02 C-J-S appropriations bill that is at or above the \$3,646 million level provided by the House of Representatives. I encourage conferees to adopt this funding level.

I urge my colleagues to carefully consider the views of the American Foreign Service Association as presented here.

[From the Oregonian, Sept. 28, 2001]

DON'T FORGET THE VITAL ROLE OF DIPLOMACY

(By John K. Naland)

President Bush has vowed to use every resource at his command to defeat terrorism. In his address to the nation last week, he included four that are familiar to most Americans: military might, intelligence collection, law enforcement and financial pressure. But many citizens might be hard-pressed to explain the practical value of the anti-terrorism tool that Bush put at the very top of his list: Diplomacy.

Diplomacy is the art of influencing foreign governments and peoples to support our nation's vital interests. Never has skilled U.S. diplomacy been more needed than in the current crisis. The president has made it clear that destroying the network of international terrorists will require the combined efforts of many nations. Thus, the task of forming that international coalition against terrorism now rests on the shoulders of U.S. diplomacy.

While Bush and Secretary of State Colin Powell are clearly our chief diplomats in this effort, our career diplomats stationed around the globe are implementing the detailed work. As Powell said in a Sept. 13 "all hands" message sent to all U.S. diplomatic and consular posts, "the men and women of American diplomacy will be at the forefront of this unprecedented effort . . . to break the back of international terrorism."

U.S. diplomats are now rallying key governments to apply political pressure on those countries that harbor terrorists. They are seeking to enlist foreign police forces and intelligence services in the search for the attackers. U.S. diplomats are negotiating for the military overflight and basing rights that will be needed if we must, as the president put it, "bring justice to our enemies."

Unfortunately, even as Congress does its part to fight terrorism by augmenting the budgets of our military, law enforcement and intelligence agencies, some in Congress do not acknowledge the parallel need to strengthen our diplomatic efforts. This despite the fact that diplomatic readiness is no less important to our national security than is military readiness.

Lost in the flurry of congressional activity last week was the Senate passage of a State Department appropriations bill that fell far short of what Powell requested last spring. The deleted funding was to have addressed two of the State Department's most pressing deficiencies: inadequate staffing and dilapidated overseas infrastructure. Because the House version of the bill fully funded the administration's request, a House and Senate